321 CMR: DIVISION OF FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE.

321 CMR 2.00: MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS RELATING TO FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE.

## 2.14: Problem Animal Control.

- (1) <u>Purpose</u>. The purpose of 321 CMR 2.14 is to control problem animals. In accordance with M.G.L. c. 131, § 4, problem animal control agents may harass, take, and destroy, or may release or liberate as stipulated in 321 CMR 2.14(20), such problem animals as are set forth in 321 CMR 2.14(20). Problem animal control agents may also disturb, remove, or destroy dens, lodges, burrows, or nests of such problem animals on property of such persons as who have engaged the services of the problem animal control agent. Nothing in 321 CMR 2.14 shall allow or be construed to allow the propagation of wildlife contrary to 321 CMR 2.12 or the rehabilitation of wildlife contrary to 321 CMR 2.13.
- (2) <u>Definitions</u>. For the purposes of 321 CMR 2.14 and unless the context requires otherwise, the following words or phrases shall have the following meanings:

Box or Cage Type Trap means a trap that confines the whole animal without grasping any part of the animal.

<u>Conibear Type Trap</u> means "Conibear" model traps and similar body-gripping traps and devices, whether or not enclosed in or comprising part of a box, tube, or other enclosing device.

<u>Control</u> means to harass, take, or destroy, or attempt to harass, take, or destroy; placing, setting, and tending of traps and similar capture devices; disturbing, removing, or destroying, or attempting to disturb, remove, or destroy dens, lodges, burrows, or nests; and to possess, transport, or liberate or attempt to possess, transport, or liberate problem animals.

<u>Director</u> means the Director of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife or his agent, with principal offices at 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114-2104.

<u>Division</u> means the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114-2104 (telephone 617-626-1572).

<u>Employees of a Municipal Entity</u> shall include permanent or provisional full-time or parttime paid employees whose principal duty is that of animal control, but shall not include consultant or contract employees or volunteers or employees whose principal duty is not that of animal control.

Environmental Police Officer or EPO means the Director of the Division of Law Enforcement, deputy directors of enforcement, chiefs of enforcement, deputy chiefs of enforcement, environmental police officers, and such other enforcement officers of the Division of Law Enforcement as may be appointed pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21, §6 21A, § 10C.

Fur-bearing Mammals means all mammals in the Class Mammalia, as defined in M.G.L. c.

<u>Gender</u> means, unless the context requires otherwise, that words importing the masculine gender shall include the other gender and the neuter.

<u>Municipal Entity</u> means towns and cities incorporated as political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

<u>Person</u> means an individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association or other private entity or any officer, agent, department or instrumentality of the federal government or any state or its political subdivisions, including but not limited to any agency, department, board, commission or authority thereof.

<u>Problem Animals</u> means non-domesticated reptiles, birds, and mammals the actions of which have or are endangering the life and health of humans or domestic animals; damaging the property of a person except grass or other natural vegetation growing without cultivation and which is not harvested or otherwise put to material use by the owner or tenant thereof; obstructing the reasonable and comfortable use of property by the owner or tenant thereof and which cannot be abated in another fashion; or otherwise producing such material annoyance, inconvenience, and discomfort that can reasonably be presumed to result in damage or hurt to persons or their property.

<u>Problem Animal Control Agent</u> or <u>Permittee</u> means a person who has been issued a permit in accordance with the provisions of 321 CMR 2.14 for the control of problem animals and further including but not limited to those persons exempted from the permit requirement pursuant to 321 CMR 2.14(15).

<u>Problem Animal Control Permit</u> means a permit which shall have been issued by the Division pursuant to 321 CMR 2.14.

<u>Site of Capture</u> means the parcel of land on which the problem animal was captured and which is owned or leased by the person who controlled the problem animal or who engaged a problem animal control agent to effect such control.

- (3) <u>Scope of Permit Requirement</u>. No person, except as otherwise authorized by state or federal law or as exempted in 321 CMR 2.14(15) shall control problem animals without obtaining a problem animal control permit and otherwise complying with the additional provisions of 321 CMR 2.14.
- (4) <u>Application</u>. A person seeking a problem animal control permit shall complete a written application on forms supplied by the Director.
- (5) <u>Information and Requirements for Application</u>. All initial permit applications shall contain the following information.
- (a) the applicant's name, address, and telephone number where he can be reached between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.;
  - (b) the applicant's date of birth;
- (c) in the event the applicant is a corporation, partnership, firm, business or other commercial entity, club, organization, or association, either public or private, the name, address, telephone number and date of birth of the president, director, head, or principal

officer;

- (d) the license number and class of the applicant's trapping license, unless exempted pursuant to 321 CMR 2.14(15);
- (e) the license number and class of the applicant's hunting or sporting license, if taking animals by shooting.
- (f) the applicant's trap registration number, unless exempted pursuant to 321 CMR 2.14(18);
- (g) in instances where the permittee charges a fee or otherwise receives consideration for his services, a signed affidavit that the applicant has to the best of his knowledge paid all state taxes as required by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue;
  - (h) the date the application was executed;
  - (i) the applicant's signature, executed under the pains and penalties of perjury;
  - (j) any letters of recommendation for the intended activity.
- (6) <u>Renewal Applications</u>. Information for renewal applications shall include that information set forth in 321 CMR 2.14(5) (a) and (c) through (j).
- (7) <u>Agreement</u>. All permits issued pursuant to 321 CMR 2.14 shall be signed by the permittee. Such signature shall constitute:
- (a) an agreement by the permittee to fully comply with all relevant provisions of law including but not limited to M.G.L. c. 131, 321 CMR, and all applicable conditions and restrictions of the license; and
  - (b) liability agreement.
- (8) Qualifications. In order to qualify for a problem animal control permit, a person shall:
  - (a) be at least 18 years of age;
- (b) pass a written examination as stipulated in 321 CMR 2.14(16) administered by the Director or his authorized agent, except as provided for in 321 CMR 2.14(15) and 2.14(18);
  - (c) successfully complete a trapper training course as provided for in 321 CMR 2.14(23);
- (d) possess a current and valid Massachusetts trapping license as provided in M.G.L. c. 131, § 11;
- (e) register, tag, and identify all traps used on land of another in accordance with provisions of M.G.L. c. 131, § 80, and 321 CMR 3.02(5);
- (f) when taking animals by means of a firearm, possess a current and valid Massachusetts hunting or sporting license as provided in M.G.L. c. 131, § 11, and, in addition, a current and valid Massachusetts Firearms Identification Card or License to Carry Firearms, as provided for in M.G.L. c. 140, §§ 129B, 131, and 131F.

## (9) Exceptions.

- (a) The provisions of 321 CMR 2.14(8)(d) through (f) shall not apply to employees of a municipal entity acting as an agent for such municipal entity, provided that all traps used by such employees shall be tagged with a metal tag bearing the name and principal address of the municipal entity whose agent is using the trap.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of 321 CMR 2.14, chimney sweeps when acting in the course of their normal business as a chimney sweep may harass birds or mammals roosting, nesting, or otherwise present in chimneys and may remove the same from such chimneys to the adjacent roof or other site immediately associated with the chimney, provided that no birds or mammals are thereby killed, injured, or taken, and that traps, firearms, and like devices are not used.

- (10) <u>Fees</u>. A fee shall be charged for the issuance of a problem animal control permit and a written problem animal control permit examination. The amount of the fees shall be determined by the commissioner of administration under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 7, § 3B, unless otherwise determined by the Legislature. No fee shall be charged for the issuance of a problem animal control permit to an employee of a municipal entity, when such employee is acting in the course of his duties as an employee of municipal entity, provided that if such municipal entity charges a fee to any landowner, tenant, or resident for the services of the municipal employee, such municipal entity shall thereby not be exempted from the fee specified in 321 CMR 2.14(10).
- (11) <u>Abandoned Applications</u>. Incomplete or improperly executed applications shall be treated as provided in 321 CMR 2.12(8).
- (12) <u>Denial</u>. Applications for a problem animal control permit shall, unless otherwise provided, be denied when:
- (a) the applicant has within one year preceding the date of application been convicted of a violation of any provision of M.G.L. c. 131 or c. 131A, or of any provision of 321 CMR, or of any federal statute or regulation which is related to the activity for which the permit is sought; or has twice been convicted or penalized for a violation of M.G.L. c. 131, § 80A;
- (b) the applicant has failed to disclose material information or has made false statements as to any fact in connection with the application;
- (c) the applicant has failed to submit the required fee with the application, unless the applicant is exempt from such fee as provided in 321 CMR 2.14(10);
- (d) the applicant fails to fulfill the examination requirement established by 321 CMR 2.14(16);
- (e) the applicant fails to successfully complete the trapper training course established by 321 CMR 2.14(23);
- (f) the applicant fails to fulfill the recertification requirement established by 321 CMR 2.14(17) by December 31 of the calendar year following the issuance of the initial permit or the most recent recertification.
- (13) <u>Permit</u>. A problem animal control permit may be issued to a person based on his demonstrated experience, letters of recommendation, results of the written examination, results of the trapper training course, and other provisions of 321 CMR 2.14. No person, unless otherwise provided by state or federal law, or unless exempted pursuant to 321 CMR 2.14(15) may control problem animals without being issued a problem animal control permit.
- (14) <u>Expiration Date</u>. The expiration date for a problem animal control permit shall be midnight of December 31 in the calendar year.
- (15) Requirements and Exemptions for Municipal Employees. Employees of a municipal entity whether elected, appointed or otherwise authorized by the Board of Selectmen or the Mayor to act as problem animal control agents for the municipal entity in which they are employed shall be required to comply with the examination and recertification requirements stipulated in 321 CMR 2.14(16) and 2.14(17). Such employees, however, shall be exempt from the permit and examination requirements stipulated in 321 CMR 2.14(13) and (16) in the following circumstances:
- (a) when acting as an agent for the municipal entity, on land owned or leased by such municipal entity, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 131, § 37;

- (b) for the control of English (house) sparrows, starlings, and pigeons (rock doves) in accordance with M.G.L. c. 131, § 83;
- (c) for the destruction and control of rats, mice, and woodchucks, and such other vertebrates as may be unprotected by law, when authorized by the Department of Foodand Agriculture Agricultural Resources in order to protect food supplies, agricultural produce, growing crops, livestock, manufactured goods and buildings, and to safeguard the public health, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 128, § 8A;
- (d) for the harassment or destruction of gulls and terns in order to preserve the purity and prevent the pollution of the waters of a reservoir, pond, and stream used for domestic water supply, provided that all necessary permits, authorizations, or requirements pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 174A and applicable federal law shall be complied with;
- (e) for the immediate protection of human life and limb, and to take, possess, transport, and destroy problem animals, notwithstanding the species restrictions in 321 CMR 2.14(20), which, having bitten or injured a human or a domestic animal shall, in the opinion of a licensed physician or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, be examined, tested, or analyzed for a communicable or infectious disease, parasite, infection, or intoxication. In addition, any state or municipal police officer, or any municipal animal control officer, may kill any raccoon, skunk, red or gray fox, bat or woodchuck which is displaying behavior which causes the officer to reasonably conclude that the animal is diseased, or which has attacked a human. Symptoms of such behavior may include but not be limited to: convulsions, swaying or weakness, paralyzed limbs, rigid posture, disoriented appearance or a transfixed stare, drooling of saliva or frothing at the mouth, repeated yawning, extreme tense or alert behavior, awkward or uncoordinated movements, or hoarse vocalizations.

## (16) Examination Requirements.

- (a) Except as provided for in 321 CMR 2.14(15) and 2.14(18), applicants for a problem animal control permit shall successfully complete a written examination relating to wildlife biology and management, capture and handling techniques, ethics, animal welfare, diseases and parasites, statutes and regulations, and such other appropriate subject matter as shall be determined by the Director. A person must attain a passing grade as determined by the Director. An applicant who fails may not be eligible to retake the examination until two months or more from the date of the failed examination.
- (b) Notwithstanding 321 CMR 2.14(16)(a), the Director may, at his discretion, waive all or part of the examination requirement for a person who has been designated a Certified Wildlife Control Professional by the National Wildlife Control Operators Association, provided that any such person shall be required to complete such portion of the examination as shall pertain to the statutes and regulations of Massachusetts pertaining to wildlife and problem animal control.
- (17) <u>Periodic Recertification</u>. Except as provided for in 321 CMR 2.14(15), a permittee shall be required to successfully complete a recertification training at least once within the three consecutive 12-month periods immediately following the successful completion of the initial examination, or the most recent re-examination. Successful completion of a problem animal control seminar, workshop, or training course by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the National Wildlife Control Operators Association, or such other agencies or organizations as shall be approved by the Director, may be substituted for all or part of the required recertification.
- (18) Grandfather Clause. All persons who have held a valid problem animal control permit

for three or more consecutive calendar years immediately prior to the publication of 321 CMR 2.14 in the Massachusetts Register on June 9, 1989, shall be exempted from the written examination requirement set forth in 321 CMR 2.14(16). However, such persons shall not be exempt from the recertification requirements stipulated by 321 CMR 2.14(17).

(19) Revocation and Non-renewal. A problem animal control permit may be revoked by the Director at any time upon evidence of failure to comply with the conditions of the permit or of 321 CMR 2.14. Such evidence regarding the activities of the permittee shall form the basis of an adjudicatory proceeding pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 13, M.G.L. c. 131, § 32, and 801 CMR 1.00 prior to permit revocation.

## (20) Conditions.

- (a) A problem animal control permit shall authorize the permittee to control problem animals of the following species or groups of species: snapping turtle, starling, pigeon (rock dove), house (English) sparrow, opossum, moles, bats except those species listed in 321 CMR 10.60, cottontail rabbits, European rabbit, chipmunk, gray squirrel, red squirrel, flying squirrels, woodchuck, muskrat, rats, mice, and voles except those species listed in 321 CMR 10.60 10.90, porcupine, raccoon, weasels (*Mustela erminea* and *M. frenata*), red and gray fox, coyote, and striped skunk. The Director may authorize individual permittees to control problem animals of other species or groups of species at such times and in such locations as he shall determine.
- (b) A problem animal control permit shall authorize the permittee to remove those mammals specified in 321 CMR 2.14(20)(a) from a hole in a tree or in the ground or a stone wall, or from within or under any ledge, stone or log, or to disturb the den or burrow of such mammals, on the property of such person as has engaged the services of the permittee. A problem animal control permit shall also authorize the permittee to destroy or disturb the nest or eggs of pigeons (rock doves), starlings, or house (English) sparrows on the property of such persons as shall have engaged the services of the permittee.
- (c) Problem animals which are captured alive shall be disposed of by destruction in a humane manner, immediate liberation at the site of capture, or, in the case of a sick or injured animal, by transferral to a wildlife rehabilitator authorized under 321 CMR 2.13.
- (d) Permittees shall fully describe to the client the nature of the animal problem, the control methods to be used to alleviate the problem, and shall further advise clients as to those means and practices which the client may employ in the future to avoid a recurrence of problem animal complaints. Where possible and practical, permittees shall employ or recommend exclusionary means in preference to lethal means for the control of problem animals.
- (e) The Director may impose such other reasonable conditions or restrictions as shall be relevant and necessary.
- (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of 321 CMR 2.14(20)(a), a permittee may control beaver when such permittee is acting as a duly authorized agent pursuant to 321 CMR 2.08, provided, that such permittee shall otherwise be in compliance with provisions of 321 CMR 2.08 and 2.14, including, but not limited to, the reporting and record-keeping requirements set forth in 321 CMR 2.14(27 28) and (28 29).
- (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of 321 CMR 2.14(20)(a), a permittee may control coyote only when, in addition to all other provisions of 321 CMR 2.14, the permittee has successfully completed the training and certification requirement as set forth in 321 CMR 2.14(24).
- (21) Authorized Means of Taking. Permittees may control or attempt to control problem

animals by means of:

- (a) Trap Types for Fur-Bearing Mammals-- Live Restraining Traps and Sets:
- 1. a box or cage type trap when tended, used, or set to insure that the device captures only one animal at a time, and which provides reasonable shelter and security to the animal trapped therein. Bailey and Hancock beaver traps and other suitcase type cage traps of similar design may be used only for the taking of beaver in accordance with 321 CMR 2.14(20)(f) and (21)(b); and
  - 2. net type traps.
- (b) Bailey and Hancock beaver traps and other suitcase type cage traps of similar design shall not be used unless the person using, placing, setting, tending, or maintaining such trap has completed a training session in the proper use of such trap and has been issued a certificate of completion of such training. The Director is hereby authorized to coordinate with the Director of Law Enforcement in establishing such training course and to provide for the issuance of certificates to such persons as shall have satisfactorily completed the training. Such certificate shall be carried on the person when using such traps, and the certificate shall be shown upon demand to any officer empowered to enforce M.G.L. c. 131.
  - (c) Trap Types for Fur-Bearing Mammals-- Kill Traps and Sets.
- 1. a common type mouse or rat trap, when set and baited in such a manner as to minimize the capture of birds;
- 2. Conibear type traps, only in accordance with a permit issued pursuant to 321 CMR 2.08, provided that such traps are used only in accordance with provisions of 321 CMR 2.08(21).
  - (d) <u>Trap Types for Birds-- Live Restraining Devices</u>.

A New York starling trap or other cage trap of similar type and design.

- (e) Trap Types for Turtles-- Live Restraining Devices.
- 1. a wire or twine hoop or funnel trap, when partially submerged and set in such a manner that all reasonable care is taken to insure that turtles and other animals trapped therein may rise to the surface of the water to breathe;
- 2. a basking-type trap, wherein turtles climb a ramp and dive therefrom into an enclosed holding pen, when set in such a manner that turtles enclosed in the holding pen may rise to the surface of the water to breathe.
- (f) Other allowable methods include shooting with a firearm when done in accordance with provisions of M.G.L. c. 131, c. 140, and c. 269; hand nets or noose poles; fumigant cartridges for the control of woodchucks; and anticoagulant rodenticides for the control of rats, mice and voles when not in conflict with M.G.L. c. 131, § 43, or c. 270, § 3A. Dogs may be used to track or locate problem animals. The Director may authorize the chemical restraint of certain problem animals by employees of a municipal entity, provided that such persons satisfy the Director as to their training and experience in such chemical restraint and provided that such persons are otherwise authorized in accordance with M.G.L. c. 94C and applicable federal law.
- (22) <u>Prohibitions</u>. Except as otherwise provided for in M.G.L. c. 131 and 321 CMR 2.08, it shall be unlawful for any person:
- (a) to trap any fur-bearing mammal with any trap other than a box or cage type trap, a common type mouse or rat trap, or a net trap.
- (b) to trap with Conibear-type traps, except as provided in 321 CMR 2.08 and 321 CMR 2.14(21); to trap with any device when set which discharges or causes the discharge of a shell, cartridge, explosive, poison, or flammable material of any kind; colony traps, or any other trap type not specifically allowed pursuant to 321 CMR 2.08 and 321 CMR 2.14(21).
  - (c) to trap with a Bailey or Hancock beaver trap or other suitcase type cage trap of similar

design without having completed a training course as provided for in 321 CMR 2.14(21)(b), or to fail to carry on the person while using such traps a certificate of completion of such training course;

- (d) to possess or have under his control an unregistered trap on land of another in any place where furbearing mammals or any animal species listed in 321 CMR 2.14(20) may be found, except for common type mouse or rat traps used inside a building;
  - (e) to possess or have under his control the registered trap of another;
- (f) to trap on land of another as posted in M.G.L. c. 131, § 36, without the written permission of the owner or tenant of such land;
  - (g) to tear open, disturb, or destroy a beaver lodge or beaver dam;
- (h) to fail to visit and remove all animals trapped in at least once within a 24-hour period, all traps by him staked out, set, used, tended, placed, or maintained;
  - (i) to destroy, mutilate, spring, or remove the trap of another;
- (j) to take any wild animal from the trap of another unless he possesses on his person specific written authorization to do so;
- (k) to set, use, place, locate, tend, or maintain a trap, except a common type mouse or rat trap set inside a building, not bearing on a metal tag the name, town of residence or business, and trap registration number of the person or persons using the same in a manner as to be legible at all times. Said registration number shall be permanently embedded in or marked on the traps with letters and figures not less than □ inches high in such a manner as to be legible at all times;
- (l) to set, use, place, locate, tend, or maintain a trap on land of another unless such person carries on his person a current and valid trap registration certificate issued by the Director or a photocopy thereof, and a current and valid Massachusetts trapping license. Such trap registration certificate or photocopy, and license, shall be shown upon demand to any officer empowered to enforce the provisions of M.G.L. c. 131;
- (l) to trap on land with a Bailey or Hancock beaver trap or other suitcase type cage trap of similar design, except when set upon a beaver lodge or beaver dam, snag, stump, rock, or other above-water protrusion entirely or substantially surrounded by water, or, when the pan of such trap is not completely submerged in water;
- (m) to rent, lend, or otherwise transfer traps to clients or other persons who are not problem animal control agents, or to knowingly allow such clients or persons to tend or check the permittee's traps; provided, that clients may visually check the permittee's traps only when specified in a written contract between the permittee and the client and only when such traps are set in or under a building. When so contracted, clients shall contact the permittee prior to 9:00 A.M. and report the presence or absence of animals in the traps. If the client shall fail to do so, the permittee shall respond to check the traps personally. Nothing in 321 CMR 2.14(22)(n) shall supersede the permittee's requirements under 321 CMR 2.14(22)(h).
- (n) to retain, sell, barter, or exchange for consideration problem animals or their carcasses or parts thereof, provided that in the event the trapping or hunting season for the particular species is open and the permittee has a valid hunting, sporting, or trapping license, as the case may be, and takes the animal in such a location where hunting or trapping is otherwise lawful, then the permittee may retain the carcass or parts thereof, provided that any tagging requirements or other conditions of 321 CMR shall be complied with.
- (23) <u>Trapper Training Course</u>. No person shall, after September 1, 1989, be issued a trap registration certificate or certificate of partnership pursuant to M.G.L. c. 131, § 80, or trap on land of another unless such person has completed a trapper training course and been issued a certificate of completion of such training, or unless such person has been issued

a resident or non-resident Massachusetts trapping license or trap registration certificate or certificate of partnership in a previous year and shall prove the same to the satisfaction of the Director. The Director is hereby authorized to coordinate with the Director of Law Enforcement in establishing such training course and the curriculum thereof and to provide for the issuance of certificates to such persons as shall have satisfactorily completed the training.

- (24) Coyote Training and Certification Requirement. A permittee shall not take or attempt to take coyotes unless said permittee has successfully completed a training and certification program and written examination as prescribed by the Director. Said training and certification program shall include, but not be limited to: coyote biology and behavior, non-lethal and lethal control techniques, damage identification, communications skills, statutes and regulations, and such other appropriate subject matter as shall be determined by the Director. A person must attain a passing grade as determined by the Director. The provisions and requirements of such training and certification shall constitute permit conditions and restrictions as provided for in 321 CMR 2.14(20(e).
- (25) <u>Presumption</u>. Registered traps set, used, maintained or tended in violation of 321 CMR 3.02(5)(b) and (c) and 321 CMR 2.14(21) and (22) shall be prima facie evidence that such traps were set, used, maintained or tended by the registered owner thereof, unless such owner has notified the Division of Law Enforcement in writing within 48 hours of the loss or theft of such registered traps, the number and type of traps, and the date, time, place and circumstance of such loss or theft. Such notification shall be signed under the pains and penalties of perjury.
- (26) <u>Forfeitures</u>. Any trap or trapping device set, used, maintained, or tended in violation of law and any nondomesticated animals caught therein shall be seized by any Environmental Police Officer and shall, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 131 and c. 257, be forfeited to the Commonwealth and disposed of by the Director of Law Enforcement to the best interests of the Commonwealth.
- (27) <u>Costs</u>. Any costs, charges, or fees, or other expenses involved with problem animal control exercised by the permittee shall be the responsibility of the permittee. The permittee shall not charge the Division or the Commonwealth for any such costs.
- (28) Record Keeping Requirements. All permittees must keep records on all problem animal complaints investigated or handled by them. Records shall include, but not be limited to, date(s) the complaint was investigated or handled, name and address of the complainant, species of animal(s) involved in the complaint, and disposition of the complaint. Records shall be available for inspection by an Environmental Police Officer or officials of the Division at any reasonable time.
- (29) Reporting Requirements. An annual report shall be filed with the Division at the end of each calendar year. Such report shall be filed no later than January 31 for the preceding calendar year. The report shall be in such manner as provided by the Director and shall report full details on the number of problem animal complaints acted on including, but not limited to: total number of complaints responded to; species of animal involved; number of individual animals taken, destroyed, or surrendered; disposition of animals taken; and such other information as the Director may require. Failure to submit such annual

report or failure to provide required information or the making of false statements shall be cause for suspension, revocation, or non-renewal of the permit. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a permittee who takes or attempts to take a coyote shall additionally provide a written report to the Director within 48 hours of such taking or attempt, stating the location, date, nature of the problem which initiated the control action, circumstances attendant to the taking or attempt, number and sex of coyotes taken or attempted to be taken, and the disposition of the animals or outcome of the attempt. In the event that a coyote or coyotes are taken, the permittee shall surrender the carcass or carcasses of the animal(-s) to the Director, within said 48 hour period.

- (30) <u>Compliance with Other Laws</u>. Issuance of a problem animal control permit under 321 CMR 2.14 shall not exempt the permittee from compliance with the provisions of any other local, state, or federal law.
- (31) <u>Limitations</u>. Nothing in 321 CMR 2.14 shall be deemed to limit any other provision of M.G.L. c. 131 or any rule or regulation issued under authority thereof.

Regulatory Authority: M.G.L. c. 131, § 4.

Last Revised: